



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

KAZAKHSTAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2013

Tatyana Pushkina, Project Coordinator

tpushkina@kncvtbc.kz

Tel.: +7 727 291 12 55/291 51 99/293 96 67

PRESS RELEASE

KAZAKHSTAN CONSIDERS FULL OUTPATIENT CARE FOR TUBERCULOSIS

ASTANA November 20-22, 2013. Central Asian countries have some of the highest rates of TB in the WHO European Region and high and rapidly growing rates of multi-drug resistant TB. Across the world, someone dies of TB each 9 minutes. In 2012, over 21,500 people were diagnosed with TB in Kazakhstan.

Health managers and civil society leaders will join U.S. Charge d'Affaires Michael Klecheski to discuss the results outpatient treatment of TB in the Akmola region and the expansion of this treatment option across Kazakhstan. Full outpatient care has several significant advantages compared with long hospitalization, including being more cost-effective for the health care system. Hospital-based care of TB hinders economic development because the inpatient treatment regiment takes people out of the workforce for months and sometimes years.

U.S. Charge d'Affaires Michael Klecheski shares his support for Kazakhstan's new treatment approaches. "Hospital-based care is less common around the world for treating TB. Outpatient care allows patients to maintain their normal life, reduces the risk of drug-resistant TB infections, and curbs some of the stigma and discrimination that TB patients face in the community."

###

Members of the press are invited to join the event in the conference hall of "Kazhol" at: Astana, Balkantau Avenue, 213 (corner of Momyshtuly str.) on November 20, 2013 at 09:00